

NEWS OF THE SPORTING WORLD

PHIL BALL OWNS ST. LOUIS TEAM

Colonel Robert L. Hedges Cleans Up Big File in Deal With Former Fed Magnate.

SALE PRICE HELD \$400,000

Branch Riekey, Last Year's Manager, Will Probably Be Retained in Some Capacity.

St. Louis, Dec. 25.—The Browns have been sold to Phil Ball, former owner of the St. Louis Browns, and the first payment has been made to Colonel Robert Lee Hedges. Hedges announced this yesterday.

The sale price of the Browns was \$400,000. This includes the holding company which owns the grounds and the improvement on it, and leases it to the baseball club at an annual rental of \$21,000 a year; also the baseball company proper, which owns the franchise, the players and all other assets.

A former stockholder was authorized by the statement that the price was \$500 a share for \$90 shares. The original incorporation was on an \$80,000 capital basis.

Hedges \$500,000 Ahead.

Hedges owned about 63 per cent of the stock of both the baseball and holding companies, making his share of the purchase price about \$252,000.

Branch Riekey, former manager of the Browns, will be retained by the new owners in some capacity, although Fielder Jones will be manager. If Ball himself elects to be president, it is probable Riekey will become chief scout.

Hedges, long dubbed "Tail-End Bob" by his fellow magnates, is quitting the game with \$500,000. He had \$30,000 when he came in with the American league, with the first baseball bid, investing that amount in the Milwaukee franchise.

Colonel Bob's Achievements.

Hedges was the first magnate to abolish bars from the grand stand and one of the first to make strong appeals to attract women fans to the park.

He built the first concrete stand in baseball, installed the first electric score board and was the first magnate to insist upon correct score cards being presented by the managers.

Jones is expected to arrive in St. Louis before the new year, and it is thought the new line up of the Browns, if they are to be called the Browns, will be virtually determined by the middle of January.

BOARD WILL DEFINE THE WORD AMATEUR

New York, Dec. 25.—The names of 16 organizations governing amateur sports in the United States and Canada which will be represented at a conference here Monday to adopt a universal definition of the amateur in athletics were made public yesterday by Gustavus T. Kirby, Mr. Kirby is chairman of the advisory committee of the intercollegiate college of amateur athletics of America. Besides the intercollegiate association, other organizations have accepted invitations.

TOUCHING YULETIDE POEMS—By Goldberg



TO BE RECITED BY THE MAID AFTER THE CHRISTMAS BUNDLES HAVE BEEN OPENED.

THE FOLKS WENT OUT IN THEIR MACHINE, AND LEFT ME ALL THIS JUNK TO CLEAN: THE KIDS WENT TO A PICTURE SHOW, AND SAID "WE WISH YOU AS WE GO, A MERRY CHRISTMAS, DEAR MARIE"—I WONDER—WERE THEY KIDDING ME?



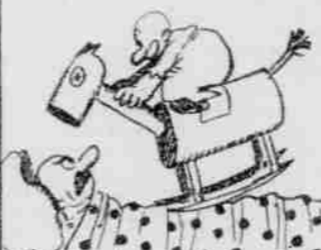
TO BE RECITED BY A YOUNG MAN AFTER RECEIVING A 10-CENT TIE PIN FROM THE GIRL WHO HAS KEPT HIM BROKE ALL YEAR.

SOME PEOPLE SAY IT ISN'T NICE TO JUDGE A PRESENT BY THE PRICE—NO MATTER TO WHAT THE COST AMOUNTS, THE SPIRIT IS THE THING THAT COUNTS: THE SPIRIT OF THIS GIFT I NOTE—IT MEANS YOURS TRULY IS THE GOAT.



TO BE RECITED BY THE HEAD OF THE FIRM AS THE LAST CONTRIBUTION LIST IS HANDED TO HIM.

HERE, TAKE MY WATCH, MY KIND YOUNG FRIEND, BY PARCEL POST MY SHIRT I'LL SEND: AND TAKE MY SHOES ALONG WITH YOU, AND ALL MY CUFFS AND COLLARS, TOO: I'LL NOT REGRET THE STEP I TAKE, THEY'LL FIND MY BODY IN THE LAKE.



TO BE RECITED BY A GOOD FATHER UPON AWAKENING CHRISTMAS MORNING.

THE SWEET-VOICED POET SOFTLY SINGS OF HOME SWEET HOME AND OTHER THINGS— I'D LIKE TO MEET THAT LONG-HAIRED GEEK ON SOME DARK NIGHT DOWN BY THE CREEK: I SHOULD HAVE TAKEN ROOM AND BOARD UPON THAT BOAT WITH HEURY FORD.



TO BE RECITED BY A FLOOR-WALKER JUST BEFORE HE BREATHES HIS LAST.

I'VE WALKED FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND MILES, ACROSS AND UP AND DOWN THE AISLES: MY DOME IS CRACKED, MY BACK IS SORE, MY KNEES ARE DRAGGING ON THE FLOOR— A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL— I HEAR THE UNDER-TAKER CALL.

CUBS WILL TRAIN AT TAMPA GROUND

President Thomas Bids Final Farewell and Extends Holiday Greetings to Players.

LEAVE FOR SOUTH ON MARCH 10

Brins Arrange Strong List of Games for Pre-Season Barnstorming Trip—Tinker Still Confined.

Chicago, Dec. 25.—Greetings of the season, in the form of the training trip scheduled for the Cubs, were issued yesterday by President Charles H. Thomas. Possibly it may be the last official statement from the offices in the Corn Exchange building. In a note to the "boys" who have been following the fortunes of the Brins from the press stand was the following sentiment:

"It may be the last time, but here is to you and yours for a merry Christmas."

Then the "boys" got together, compared notes and voted Charles H. Thomas a good fellow with all the trimmings, including a tip that the present head of the Cubs is in for something soft in the baseball line at no distant date.

The schedule as given out shows that the Cubs will start on March 10 for Tampa, Fla. They will remain there until March 20, when the dues to Father Neptune will be settled, as the players are booked for a trip on the water to New Orleans. At the Crescent City the new Cub-Whale combination will play its first exhibition game on April 1 with the New Orleans team. On the following day they will tackle what remains of the Cleveland Indians and then another game is booked with the Pelicans.

Start Tour April 4.

On April 4 the Cubs will be headed for the north, playing that day at Monroe, La. Then in turn Pine Bluff, Little Rock, Memphis and Louisville will be visited, the team winding up with the Colonels on April 11, the day before they open in Cincinnati.

It will not all be practice at Tampa, as from March 18 to 23 several exhibition games will be played in and around the southern resort. The ocean trip to New Orleans is figured by President Thomas as a good thing for the athletes and will be an innovation for a ball team, as any trips by water which have been taken has usually preceded the training work.

Strong Schedule.

The schedule is considered one of the best the Cubs have had, as the traveling is cut down to the minimum, something which ball players are always pining for. That the dates will be approved by Weeghman and Tinker is a certainty, as Mr. Weeghman has insisted that he will carry out all the contracts which President Thomas has made. It is taken for granted that Sureport is scratched as a training place, although the present Whale management has been pretty sweet on that point.

President Weeghman and Joe Tinker had their first official conference yesterday since Joe went to the hospital. The two talked baseball with a couple of nurses as witnesses. Players and their capabilities were under discussion, but nothing was settled, and nothing will be settled until Tinker gets on his feet again, which will be in a week or so. They may haul him home today for an introduction to the new ball player who was brought in by Scout Stork while Tinker was in the hospital.

In his talk with his boss Tinker mentioned several Cub players by name. Among these were Vaughan, Lavender, Schulte, Archer, Williams, Sailer and Zimmerman. In fact, all these were counted on as regulars next year by the carved manager. He also mentioned Brown, Hendrix, McConnell, Bailey, Pendergast, Wilson, Fisher, Zeider, Doolan, Flack, Zwilling and Mann of his old crew.

All the news all the time—The Argus.

LIL AWTHA SURE IS LONESOME BOY

Former Champ Pining for Home as He Writes for Permission to Come Back to the States.

Jack Johnson, former heavyweight champion of the well known world, who has expatriated himself for two years or so, wants to come back to the United States.

He wrote a letter to Charles F. Clyde, United States attorney, asking the federal prosecutor to review the evidence in the white slave case in which he was convicted by the government.

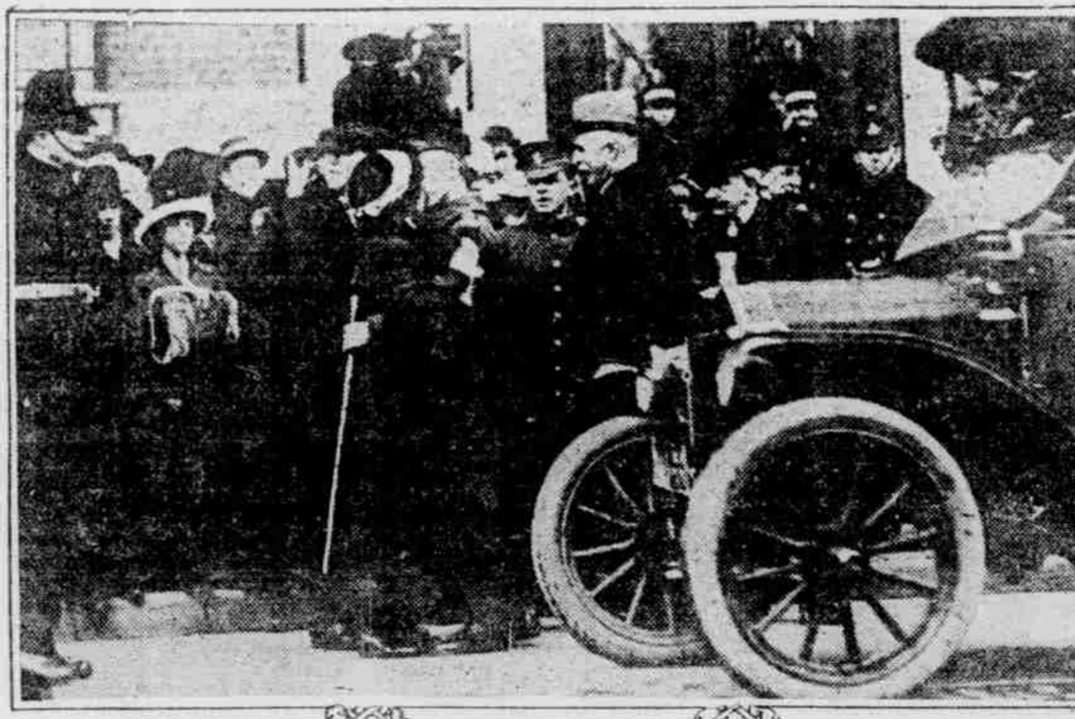
After he was convicted Johnson jumped his bond of \$20,000 and fled to Europe. The letter received yesterday by Mr. Clyde was mailed from 333 The Strand, London, England.

"I am a much-persecuted man," wrote Johnson, on nice pink-tinted notepaper. "I want to come back. Much time has elapsed since I was forced to leave the United States and I am lonesome for home. I feel that you have been in office long enough to understand my case, and thus understanding it to deal with me with justice. Please deal kindly with me."

Mr. Clyde said that if Johnson should come back to the United States he will be dealt with just as would any other fugitive from justice. It doesn't look very rosy for Jack.

All the news all the time—The Argus.

JOY IN MONTREAL WHEN WOUNDED SOLDIERS RETURN HOME



One hundred and fifty disabled soldiers were welcomed home a few days ago in Toronto, Canada. They were battered and scarred in the heavy fighting in the trenches in France.

Great throngs crowded the streets

through which automobiles bore the heroes, invalided, maimed or blind to a convalescent home.

All were veterans of the first Canadian contingent, which left for the front in August, 1914, and nearly all were the victims of the Ypres fighting last spring, in which the Can-

adians so distinguished themselves.

The picture shows one of the many pathetic scenes which were enacted by the embattled heroes were recognized by relatives and friends. Quartermaster Haggi, a wounded officer, is seen kissing his sister. Directly behind him is the officer's father.

WITH THE BOXERS

Chicago, Dec. 25.—Larney Lichtenstein arrived in town last night after a month's stay in New York, where he had Ad Wolgast and Joe Welling performing before the Gotham bugs. Larney's first words were to register a kick against the yarns coming out of the east to the effect that Wolgast was through.

"I stopped both his fight with Whitney in Atlanta and his bout with Cross in New York," he said, "because he was butted by Whitney and the blood was flowing into his eyes. He wanted to continue, but I refused. Give him three weeks' rest and he will beat either boy before one of the local clubs."

New York, Dec. 25.—Jess Willard may meet Frank Moran in New York March 17. Tom Jones is talking terms today with the Madison Square Garden management and hopes to make terms for a championship no-decision bout.

New York, Dec. 25.—Jackey Hommey's constant rushes outweighed the ring craft of Leach Cross, and the Ghetto champion had a decided edge over the fighting dentist in their 10-round bout at the Harlem Sporting club. Hommey clinched the victory in the last round when he lambasted Cross without return.

Chicago, Dec. 25.—Ever Hammer will have more to take care of in his battle at Gary next Wednesday night with K. O. Brown than cleverness and punching ability. Brown is one of those peculiar freaks of the prize ring who stands with right foot out and right hand extended. This probably will prove the biggest handicap to Hammer and it may take five or six rounds for Ever to solve a defense for Brown's attack. Dum Dan Morgan last night sent work that his charge is in great shape.

Mike Hirsch and Phil Harrison, who meet in the semi-wind-up, are splitting

the Ghetto sentiment. Both are Ghetto fighters with a big following.

St. Paul, Dec. 25.—Following several long hikes hunting rabbits in Minnesota's snow, Mike Gibbons yesterday announced that he would begin training Monday for his bout with Young Ahearn. He has been sick since Dec. 8.

New York, Dec. 25.—Battling Levinsky are the big card for New York on Christmas day. Levinsky already is claiming he'll knock out the fireman.

MANY ENTRIES IN FOR PIN TOURNEY

Singles Bowling Meet to Be Staged at Island City Alleys for Two Days, Jan. 1 and 2.

A single tournament for local bowlers will be staged at the Island City alleys next week, according to plans formed by Jim Normoyle. The tournament is to be a handicap affair and every pin artist in the city will have a chance for the big prizes. A \$1 entry fee is to be charged and entries must be in by Friday evening.

Score keepers and umpires will be on hand both during the day and in the evening of the two days of the meet. Bowlers will be allowed to roll more than one match by paying extra entrance fee, but no contestant will be permitted to shoot more than three series. League bowlers will be entered according to their averages and handicaps arranged in proportion. Bowlers not playing in the local leagues will be entered at a 150 average. Entrants with a 150 average will be allowed a 20-pin handicap and those with a 180-average will be handicapped a 20-plus. Any bowler making over six hundred in a series will not be allowed the handicap. Entries are already pouring in and the meet promises to be a success.

SET NEW RECORD IN HORSE SALE IN EAST

New York, Dec. 25.—Horsemen said yesterday that the sale of 15 thoroughbred horses, bred and foaled in Europe for about \$50,000, an average of more than \$3,300, was the best showing of prices obtained for thoroughbreds in this state for many years. The horses were the property of Charles H. Mackay and were bred on his farm in Normandy, France. Horse fanciers from all over the east were among the bidders in the sale conducted here Thursday night. More than 3,000 persons attended.

John H. Morris of Kentucky paid the top price, \$5,600, for Sun Light, a chestnut colt by Sundridge-Spectrum. It was reported that Morris was acting in behalf of Kenneth Alexander of Versailles, Ky.

John Sanford, state racing commissioner, of Amsterdam, N. Y., was the largest individual purchaser. He paid \$5,500 for Gloriana, a yearling filly by Meddler-Ballantrae; \$4,000 for Pierre-A-Feu by Rock Sand out of Trigger, and \$4,800 for Gunrock.

INDIANA OVERLOOKS YALE AND HARVARD

Bloomington, Ind., Dec. 25.—With the football schedule completed yesterday with the booking of a game with Tufts college of Boston, Indiana University declined the offer of games next fall with both Harvard and Yale. The athletic board met yesterday and announced the following complete list of games:

Sept. 30—De Pauw at Bloomington.
Oct. 7—Open.
Oct. 14—Chicago at Chicago.
Oct. 21—Open.
Oct. 28—Tufts college at Indianapolis.
Nov. 4—Northwestern at Bloomington.
Nov. 11—Ohio State at Columbia.
Nov. 18—Florida at Bloomington.
Nov. 25—Purdue at Lafayette.

M'GRAW PLANNING TO GET PLAYERS

Serappy Leader of Giants Postpones Trip to Cuba to Line Up Federal Tossers.

New York, Dec. 25.—John McGraw, Giant leader, threw on the brakes and stopped short in plans to leave for Cuba yesterday, while Captain T. L. Houston, Yankee owner, conferred with Manager Bill Donovan, all because Federal league players were being dangled teasingly within reaching distance by Harry Sinclair.

The Federal league's oil angel has disposition of all the Federal talent except the players of the St. Louis and Chicago outlaw clubs. It was announced by Ed Barrow, president of the International league. Sinclair has assumed responsibility for the contracts of all the players, Barrow said, and will sell the live stock for what they'll bring.

The Yanks were said to own options on half a dozen star performers who were enemy uniforms last year, but desire particularly to land Leopold Hoerschmeyer Magee, Outfielder Rousch of the Newark Feds and Catcher Barnden, formerly of Boston.

COLUMBIA PLAYERS WINNER CHESS MEET

New York, Dec. 25.—Columbia University won the intercollegiate chess championship tournament, which ended here yesterday, with a score of 10½ won to 1½ lost. A. J. Mandell and N. W. Kempf, each had a clean slate of three wins; H. E. Leede was held to a draw in one of his games and Captain F. F. Korkus lost a contest after a hard struggle.

Princeton took second place with 6 points to 6; Harvard was third with 5½ to 6½ and Yale won only 2 points to 10 scored against them. Columbia now has 11 of the 24 tournaments to their credit; Harvard nine; Yale 2; Princeton one and one ended in a tie.

MAGEE OIL MAGNATE SO SAYS SINCLAIR

St. Louis, Dec. 25.—Lee Magee, for a short time manager of the Brooklyn Feds, is going to be an oil man. Harry Sinclair, credited with bringing about baseball peace, said so. Sinclair said several clubs offered \$15,000 for Magee.

"Lee is worth more than \$15,000 to me," said Sinclair yesterday, "and I like him. He's too good to be in baseball, so I'm going to take him to Oklahoma and set him to work with the gushers."

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Did You Have Enough Money?
to pay cash for all your Christmas purchases? Were you able to make all the little presents you would like to have made? Were all your family and friends remembered with just the gifts you would like to have made them?
Wouldn't a little extra money just before Christmas be very useful to you? If so, then prepare for next Christmas by joining our Savings Club for Christmas, 1916. Make a small deposit every week and when the Club matures next December you will have a nice little sum accumulated with which to do your Christmas shopping.
The Club is divided into classes to suit every sized pocketbook.
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Northwest Corner Second Avenue and Eighteenth Street.